







Thargomindah Town Map

-  Drinking water/drinks available
-  Toilets
-  Telephone
-  Start / Finish Heritage Walk
-  Start / Finish River Walk
-  Start / Finish Nature Walk



- ### Legend
1. Explorer's Caravan Park
 2. Thargomindah Hospital
 3. Leahy House
 4. Oasis Motel
 5. Thargo Motors
 6. Bulloo Shire Council
 7. Shire Library & Internet Service
 8. Thargomindah Swimming Pool
 9. Thargomindah State School
 10. Thargomindah Community Centre
 11. Thargomindah Memorial Park
 12. Thargomindah General Store
 13. Catholic Church
 14. Bulloo River Hotel/Motel
 15. Dowling & Leahy Sculptures
 16. Police Station
 17. Thargomindah Post Office
 18. Fergies Roadhouse & Freight
 19. General Trade Industries
 20. CONDUIT Art Work
 21. Hydro Power Plant
 22. Old Thargomindah Hospital – Visitor Information Centre (VIC)
 23. Old Thargomindah Printers
 24. Old Town Hall & Shire Office
 25. Cobb & Co Crossing
 26. Old Thargomindah Cemetery
 27. Present Day Cemetery
 28. Thargomindah Golf Club
 29. Polocrosse & Rodeo Grounds
 30. Skate Bowl
 31. Napunyah Caravan Park
 32. Bike Track
 33. Dump Point & Washdown Facility
 34. Turnout's Mechanical Services



Inland, Outback, Out Here!

Thargomindah's Self Drive Tours

Natural Sciences Loop

- Lake Bindegolly National Park
- Pelican Point on the Bulloo River
- Thargomindah Hydro Power Plant and Artesian Bore
- The Burke and Wills Dig Tree on Cooper Creek



Natural Experience Tour

- Kilcowera Station
- Hungerford, Royal Mail Hotel
- Currawinya National Park



Beyond the Range Tour

- The Grey Range
- Noccundra Hotel
- Wilson River
- Cameron Corner



History's Footsteps Tour

- Noccundra Hotel
- Coopers Creek
- The Dig Tree
- Innamincka

Contact us:
Thargomindah Visitor Information Centre
Cnr McGregor & Eccles Street
Thargomindah QLD 4492
Tel: (07) 4655 3399 Fax: (07) 4655 3374
Email: thargo.info@bigpond.com
Web: www.thargotourism.com.au



Outback Adventure - Queensland

Experience Thargomindah



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Thargomindah

Inland, Outback, Out Here!

Thargomindah is an aboriginal word, which can be interpreted as either "Cloud of Dust" or "Echidna", depending on the chosen dialect. The town lies on the banks of the Bulloo River, 200 kilometers west of Cunnamulla, and 1000 kilometers west of Brisbane.

In 1860 the epic expedition of Burke and Wills through far south west Queensland paved the way for settlement in the area. It was during this time that a remarkable bushman by the name of Vincent James Dowling pioneered and settled Thargomindah Station, which is situated on the opposite side of the Bulloo River to where the town reserve of Thargomindah was gazetted on 31st December 1874.

Thargomindah has a population of approximately 250 people, and the traditional source of industry in the Shire is Beef and Wool, however today, petroleum/oil and gas are a large part of the Shire's economy.

Each of the streets in Thargomindah is named after residents or notable people of the time. For example, Sams Street is named after the "Fighting Person", Rev Hulton-Sams, a member of the 'Bush Brothers'. It was believed that he had a practice of preaching, and then holding a sparring session. A poem was widely circulated after his death in France during WWI.

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Facts and Figures

Average Annual Rainfall:	10 inches (254 mls)
Elevation:	128.7m
Summer Temperature:	25 - 48.7°C
Winter Temperature:	0 - 24°C
Shire Area:	74,000 sq kms
Water Supply:	Bore water
Great Artesian Basin	
Water Temperature:	82 - 84°C
Bore Depth:	820m
Latitude:	27 degrees 59 S
Longitude:	143 degrees 49 E
Mobile Phone Service:	Telstra Next G



For further information please check our website www.bulloo.qld.gov.au

Annual Events Calendar

April:	"Gordon McKinlay Memorial" Channel Country Challenge
June:	Hungerford Biennial Field Day Noccundra Gymkhana
July:	Thargomindah Annual Polocrosse Carnival
September:	Thargomindah Rodeo Hungerford Horse & Motor-bike Gymkhana
October:	Hungerford Sports Day Noccundra Campdraft Rodeo Gymkhana

Service Directory

Hotels & Motels

Bulloo River Hotel/Motel	Dowling Street	07 4655 3125
Oasis Motel & Restaurant	Dowling Street	07 4655 3155

Caravan Parks

Explorers Caravan Park	Dowling Street	07 4655 3307
Napunyah Caravan Park	Powell Street	07 4655 3198

Station Stays

Kilcowera Station	Hungerford Road	07 4655 4960
Epsilon Station	Near Cameron Corner	07 4655 4324

Eating Places

Fergie's Roadhouse & Freight	Stafford Street	07 4655 3313
Oasis Restaurant	Dowling Street	07 4655 3155
Bulloo River Hotel	Dowling Street	07 4655 3125

Emergency Numbers

Thargomindah Hospital	Dowling Street	07 4655 3361
Thargomindah Police 000 (Emergency)	Dowling Street	07 4655 3200
State Emergency Service	Dowling Street	07 4621 8000
Ambulance 000 (Emergency)	Dowling Street	07 4655 3361
Bulloo Shire Council	Dowling Street	07 4621 8000
Bulloo Shire Council Flood Truck	Dowling Street	07 4621 8000

Airline

Skytrans Booking Agent	Gilmour Street	07 4655 3035
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Banks

Thargomindah Post Office - Agency for a variety of Banks	Gilmour Street	07 4655 3147
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Services

Thargomindah Post Office	Gilmour Street	07 4655 3147
QGAP (Police Station)	Dowling Street	07 4655 3291
Centrelink Agency: Thargomindah General Store	Dowling Street	07 4655 3232
Thargo Motors	Dowling Street	07 4655 3225
Fergie's Roadhouse & Freight	Stafford Street	07 4655 3313
General Trade Industries	Stafford Street	07 4655 3031
Turnout's Mechanical Services	Stafford Street	0407 607 315 or 07 4655 3101

Internet Facilities

Thargomindah Library	Dowling Street	07 4621 8023
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Souvenirs

Fergie's Roadhouse & Freight	Cnr Stafford & Frew Streets	07 4655 3313
Thargomindah Post Office	Gilmour Street	07 4655 3147
Thargomindah General Store	Dowling Street	07 4655 3232

Sporting Facilities

Thargomindah Community Centre	Dowling Street	07 4655 3266
Thargomindah Golf Club	Adjacent to New Cemetery	07 4621 8000

Transport

Fergie's Roadhouse & Freight	Cnr Stafford & Frew Streets	07 4655 3313
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National Parks

National Parks Thargomindah	Sams Street	07 4655 3173
Currawinya National Park Ranger	Sams Street	07 4655 4001

Attractions

Hydro Power Plant

Thargomindah was the first town in Australia, and third in the world, to produce hydro-electric power for street lighting by using the water pressure from the Artesian Basin. In 1891 drilling commenced on a bore to supply the town with water, and in 1893 a good supply was struck at a depth of 2650ft (808mtrs) with the water coming from the bore at a temperature of 84°C (182°F). The old bore was the source of energy for Australia's first hydro-electric scheme when in 1898 Thargomindah's street lights were powered by means of generators coupled to a water turbine driven by the bore's natural water pressure. This method was in operation until 1951, when diesel generators were installed. The town was connected to the Grid system in 1988.



Leahy Historical House

Leahy House was built after 1885 when the deed of Grant was made to the Thargomindah Newspaper Company, which was owned by John and Patrick Leahy. It was sold to Sir Sidney Kidman, the cattle Baron, in 1912. The house is built of the original, locally made, mud brick and was continuously lived in until 1995, when the Bulloo Shire Council purchased the building. It was then handed to the Thargomindah Historical Society in Trust for the community.



Original Thargomindah Hospital

The Hospital was built in 1888 of locally produced unfired Mud Brick. The bricks were made from black soil on the banks of the Bulloo River just south of the town, at the site of what was the Chinese Market Gardens. The Old Hospital is also reputed to have a resident ghost, who is thought to be a former Matron, who unfortunately died in mysterious circumstances. Today the original Thargomindah Hospital is a Visitor Information Centre.



Thargomindah Herald Printers

The Thargomindah Herald Printers was built of locally produced unfired Mud Brick in 1870 and constructed by Patrick and John Leahy. The first Thargomindah Herald was published in 1884 and was widely circulated in the area. In 1884 John Leahy became a partner in the Thargomindah Herald, which had been established by Patrick, and was printed by P.J. Leahy for the Thargomindah Newspaper Company Limited. The Coopers Creek Advertiser was also printed in this building.



Inland, Outback, Out There!

Bronze bust sculptures of Vincent Dowling and John Leahy have been created by distinguished national artist William Eicholtz of Melbourne to honour the memory of two intrepid pioneers, and signify the importance of the contribution that they made to the settlement and growth of Thargomindah and the Bulloo Shire. The sculptures are seen as strong eloquent expressions of culturally important history and will assist in preserving and recording the foundation of the town of Thargomindah and the history of the region.



Old and New Cemeteries

The old Cemetery is located very close to town, and contains only a few headstones. These date back to 1882. The new Cemetery is located on the outskirts of town and contains graves dating back to the 1890's. The Cemetery Register had to be reconstructed from local knowledge, as a fire destroyed the original records.



Cobb & Co Crossing

During the late 1880's, Thargomindah became the home for Cobb & Co Coaches, which serviced the distant settlements of Hungerford, Wompah, Oontoo, Kyabra and Toompine. The trip by Stage Coach to Cunnamulla, which was a distance of 150 miles, would take about 5-6 days, on a good road. The stone crossing was used up until late 1929 when the current bridge was built.



Thargomindah Post Office

The Thargomindah Post Office was opened in 1870; however it was leveled to the ground by a storm in 1877. In 1952 a fire burnt out the interior of the Post Office building. The present day Post Office still has the original exterior walls, which were constructed of the locally made Mud Brick. It is one of only four remaining buildings in the Town, constructed by the old Mud Brick method.



"CONDUIT between above and below"

Storm rain, the Great Artesian Basin and the river and creek systems are important water elements in the region. Artist, Fredrick White created this sculpture, which comprises a field of galvanized poles, representing the 4,700 bores that provide the only reliable source of water throughout much of inland Australia. There are 52 poles in the work - a number chosen to represent the need for water all year round. The illusion of depth in the centre of the work signifies the average depth of an Artesian bore, which is approximately 500 metres.

