

Why Benalla is a great choice

About 14,000 people live in Benalla and the surrounding district, about two hours' drive north-east of Melbourne via the Hume Freeway.

Benalla is built on both sides of the Broken River, which generally flows in a northerly direction through the town. Damming the river near the railway at the northern end of town created Lake Benalla.

Benalla is the gateway to Victoria's High Country, which is great for those who love hiking and skiing.

It is also located close to some of Australia's best wineries.

It is home to Australia's largest gliding club, attracting pilots from around the globe to experience the area's world renowned flying conditions.

Other highlights of this beautiful town are:

Benalla Art Gallery: One of the best regional galleries in Australia with works by Arthur Streeton, Frederick McCubbin, Fred Williams and Sidney Nolan. Surrounded by beautiful botanical gardens and Lake Benalla, the Art Gallery precinct is a Benalla 'must do'.

Winton Wetlands: The restoration of Winton Wetlands is the largest wetland restoration project in the southern hemisphere. You can circumnavigate Lake Mokoan or enjoy the peace and tranquility of the bush with a network of bike paths snaking through the reserve. Grab lunch and a coffee at the Mokoan Hub while you're there.

Gliding over Benalla: The Gliding Club of Victoria is the largest Gliding Club in Australia. There are intensive seven day 'learn to glide' packages or half hour bookable joy flights, making Benalla the ideal place to learn how to fly.

Wall to Wall Festival: World class street art is the legacy of the Benalla Street Art Festival. Search for the soul of the city on walls and buildings around Benalla.

Helpful sites:

Information on what to see and do: <http://www.enjoybenalla.com.au/>

Tourism information: <http://www.victoriashighcountry.com.au/>

Information about Benalla Region current events: <http://www.highcountryharvest.com.au/>

