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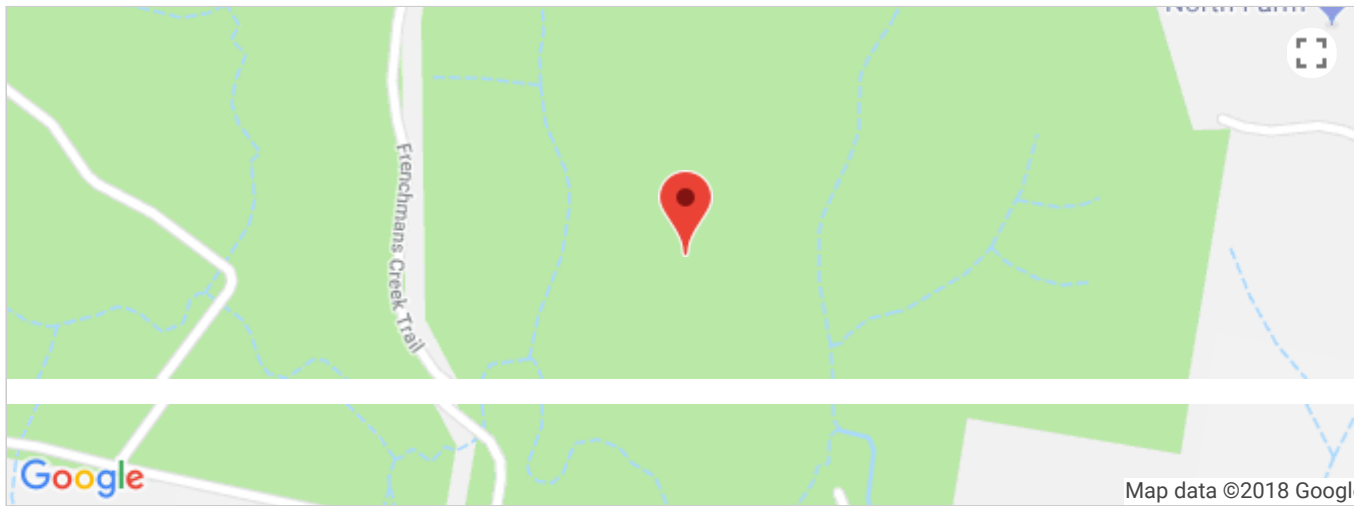
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Bellingen

The bohemian town of Bellingen is on the mid north coast of NSW.



Quick facts

Training region	North Eastern NSW
Subregion	North Coast

GP Synergy grouping

B

RA/MMM classification

RA3/MMM5

Population

The population of Bellingen is nearly 4,000 people, the median age is 41 years. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make up 3.3% of the population.

Bellingen is located within the [North Coast Primary Health Network](#), these [fact sheets](#) provide an overview of the health needs of the North Coast community.

Location

Bellingen township lies on the Bellingen River and is a small town on [Waterfall Way](#) on the Mid North Coast of New South Wales, and it is approximately halfway between the major Australian cities of Sydney and Brisbane.

Bellingen is best known for its welcoming village atmosphere, creative energy and relaxed and friendly lifestyle. Bellingen's rich architectural heritage, rural charm, gourmet food scene and cultural celebrations, such as their annual Jazz Festival, has made the town a popular tourist destination.

Transport links

The closest regional airport to Bellingen is Coffs Harbour Airport, which is a 29 minute drive from Bellingen.

Direct flights operate daily to and from Sydney, and weekly to and from Melbourne, with three operators, QantasLink, Tiger Air and Virgin Australia, servicing the region.

There is a train station located in Coffs Harbour with daily Countrylink services to and from Sydney and Brisbane (with stopovers in between).

Buses arrive in Coffs Harbour regularly at the Bus Depot located on the Pacific Highway. Three coach companies can deliver you to the region: Greyhound Australia, Premier Motor Service and New England Coaches.

Industry

The major sources of employment in Bellingen are:

Health care and social assistance,
Education and Training
Retail Trade
Accommodation and food services,
Construction,
Manufacturing

Healthcare facilities

[Bellingen River District Hospital](#) is a 36 acute bed facility, providing a 24 hour service. Medical services are provided by general practitioners. Surgical services are provided by specialist surgeons and anaesthetists contracted to the health district. Services provided include emergency, general medicine, aged care and day surgery.

The nearest regional hospital is [Coffs Harbour Health Campus](#) 25 minutes from Bellingen. It has 292 beds and provides a broad range of specialist services.

Allied health services, including occupational therapy, speech pathology, social work, physiotherapy, dietetics, radiology, pathology, and pharmacy, are an integral part of the organisation and contribute to the high level of patient care at Coffs Harbour Health Campus.

Bellingen is supported by NSW ambulance service.

Accredited GP training practices in town

Bellingen Healing Centre
North Bellingen Medical Practice
Three Rivers Health

Education

Schools in Bellingen include:

[Bellingen Primary School](#)
[St Mary's Bellingen](#)
[Chrvalis Steiner School](#)

Bellingen High School

Coffs Harbour, which is a 29 minute drive offers additional educational opportunities. For more information on education within Coffs Harbour, please [click here](#).

There is also North Coast TAFE, [Coffs Harbour Campus](#) and Southern Cross University, [Coffs Harbour Campus](#).

Childcare

For young families the Bellingen region offers [a wide range of options](#) suitable for children from 6 weeks to school aged, for occasional care, long day care, family day care and preschool.

Shopping

Bellingen has an IGA supermarket and several quaint places where you can enjoy a good cup of coffee. Bellingen also boasts a wide variety of unique retail outlets where you can find everything from stylish boutiques to homewares. Bellingen has some quaint gift and specialty shops including the Yellow Shed, Old Butter Factory, the Woodcraft Gallery and the Blackhole Art Centre.

Woolworths, Coles, Aldi and SUPA IGA and major retailers such as Target, Kmart, Big W and Harvey Norman are all located in Coffs Harbour, just under 30 minutes from Bellingen.

Places of worship

Within Bellingen, there is the Australian Christian church, Catholic, Christian Life Centre and Uniting church and many more options available in the nearby Coffs Harbour including [Dhammaduta Buddhist Association](#) and an [Islamic Musallah](#).

Things to do

Bellingen is a 30 minute drive from the steep Dorrigo plateau, where you have the opportunity to view the beautiful landscape in the valley below and to view the Newell Falls. Once you are in Dorrigo, you may wish to visit the Sakura Bonsai Gallery, which houses some 100 mature and 'in-progress' trees, some more than 70 years old. The Dorrigo Rainforest Skywalk, is a good way of viewing the forest. If you love waterfalls, the Bangalore Falls in the Bindarri National Park are both spectacular and easily accessible.

Coffs Harbour is just under 30 minutes from Bellingen and has a lot to offer, from sporting and recreation clubs to cinemas and shopping, music and art events.

The Coffs Harbour Zoo or the Solitary Islands Marine park, with 100 000 hectares of marine life including turtles and dolphins is great for the children. As is a trip to the Pet Porpoise Pool. The Butterfly House contains hundreds of butterfly types in an indoor, but otherwise natural environment.

For sheer fun, visit Coffs Harbour's Big Banana. As the first of Australia's "big" attractions, you'll have fun touring the plantation and trying some of the best banana recipes you'll ever taste.

Bonville Golf Resort is a multi-award-winning course and resort close to Coffs Harbour. Flooded Gums, the resort's signature restaurant has received a Chef Hat for its faultless service and refined cuisine.

For more information

[Bellingen](#)
[Bellingen - Wikipedia](#)
[Coffs Coast/Bellingen](#)
[Dorrigo](#)

Image gallery

TRAINING REGIONS

Western NSW

North Eastern NSW

Lower Eastern NSW

RURAL TOWNS IN NORTH COAST REGION

Alstonville

Ballina

Bangalow

Bellingen

Brunswick Heads

Byron Bay

Casino

Coffs Harbour

Dorrigo

Evans Head

Grafton

Kempsey

Lake Cathie

Laurieton

Lennox Head

Lismore

Macksville

Maclean

Mullumbimby

Nambucca Heads

North Haven

Ocean Shores

Port Macquarie

South West Rocks

Tintenbar

Toormina-Sawtell

Urunga

Valla Beach

Wauchope

Woolgoolga

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