



## **An Introduction to Australian Army Aviation and The Museum of Australian Army Flying**

The Museum of Australian Army Flying is situated 3 kilometres north of Oakey on the Darling Downs in Queensland. The location is adjacent to the civil airport terminal on the eastern side of the Australian Army Aviation Centre.

### **No. 6 Aircraft Depot**

During WWII, No. 6 Aircraft Depot was established at Oakey as a key RAAF station in the South West Pacific area. Aircraft such as the Beaufort, Boomerang, Kittyhawk, Spitfire, Lancaster, Mustang, Norseman and Wirraway were serviced, repaired and test flown here until February 1946.

### **Army Aviation Development**

On 1<sup>st</sup> July 1968, Australian Army Aviation was born and needed a home. On 4 December 1968 Federal Cabinet approved the Department of Defence Submission that sought the acquisition of Oakey airfield from the Department of Civil Aviation, together with certain adjoining privately owned property, all to be developed by the Department of the Army as a permanent base for Army Aviation. It has since grown into a major Defence aviation facility.

Although there were elements of 1st Aviation Regiment based at Oakey prior to 1973 the majority of the Army Aviation assets moved to Oakey in November 1973.

Oakey, which is located some 72 nautical miles west of Brisbane, is an ideal location for military flying training. It has excellent around the year flying conditions, a wide variety of training areas, an absence of major air traffic routes and is centrally situated to the major military training areas on the east coast.

It is now the home to Tiger, Black Hawk and Kiowa helicopters and Super King Air aircraft. In the future the new MRH 90 helicopter will also be located at Oakey.

The airfield is often used by civilian aircraft and is also a standby airfield when Toowoomba is closed in with inclement weather. The proximity of the civilian terminal to the Museum provides easy access during air displays, open days and to modern and clean toilet facilities.



## AN INVITATION TO VISIT THE MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN ARMY FLYING

The Museum has been open to the public since 01 July 1989. In September 2005 it moved to a new display hangar and since that time has grown into a prestige tourist attraction displaying the history of Army Aviation and No.6 Aircraft Depot under the one roof.

Access to the Museum is well sign posted from the Warrego Highway through Oakey.



The Museum is open daily from **10.00am to 4.00pm**, with the exception of Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Good Friday. Entrance charges are: Adults \$5.00, Family of 2 adults and up to 3 children \$12.00, Children \$2.00 and Pension card holders \$3.00.

Volunteer workshop guided tours are available on Wednesdays and Sundays. The tour charges for the workshop area are Adults \$5.00, Family of 2 adults and up to 3 children \$12.00, Children \$2.00 and Pension card holders \$3.00.

Bookings can be made by ringing/emailing the office or faxed in on the Booking Form attached with this package. A guided tour of between 30 – 60 minutes can be arranged if booked in advance.

Modern facilities are available for tourists, including disabled access, picnic shelters and barbeques.

Rest rooms are located in the civilian terminal and the Souvenir shop is well stocked and cool drinks are also available.



## What visitors will see when visiting the Museum



When you visit the Museum of Australian Army Flying you will see many aircraft that have been restored to original condition and displayed with information panels telling the story of each aircraft. Some of the aircraft are shown below.

If you have requested a tour the guide will take you through the aircraft one by one telling stories of the history of each display and explaining where they fit into the life of Army aviation.

### **BRISTOL BOXKITE**

The Bristol Boxkite, also known as the Bristol Bi-Plane "BB", was a direct copy of the 1909 Henri Farman Boxkite. The Boxkite was the first aircraft flown by Military personnel in Australia in 1912.



### **FOKKER DR1 TRIPLANE**

Made famous by the leading air ace of WWI Manfred Von Richthofen, commonly known as the "Red Baron".



### **AUSTER MARK 111**

This little aircraft was the Army's re-introduction to flying in the 1950's.



### **BELL 47 SIOUX**

The Bell 47G light helicopter was the first helicopter to enter Australian Army service and represented a significant breakthrough in capability for Army flying.

## **CAC WINJEEL**

The Winjeel (an Australian Aboriginal word meaning young eagle) is an Australian designed and built training aircraft.



## **PILATUS TURBO PORTER**

The Pilatus PC-6 Turbo Porter was built in Switzerland and bought by the Australian Army to replace the Cessna 180. The pilots who flew it loved the Porter and it had an impressive short field take-off and landing capability.



## **BELL 206B – 1 KIWONA**

The Bell 206B-1 Kiowa was a great leap forward in technology and ability over the Sioux it replaced in the 1970's. It is still in flying service today.



## **BELL UH-1H**

The Bell UH-1H, Huey had a career extending well over 40 years in both the RAAF and Army Aviation. It is one of the great military helicopters and was used as a utility helicopter to move troops, stores and also as a gunship with rockets and mini-guns.



## **GAF NOMAD**

The Nomad aircraft was an Australian designed and built twin-engine utility aircraft specifically aimed at the Short Takeoff and Landing (STOL) transport role. A total of 172 aircraft, N22 and N24 models, were produced by the Government Aircraft Factory (GAF).

## **CAC BOOMERANG**

Mrs Lynette Zuccoli donated the Boomerang to the Museum in May 2007, in memory of her late husband, Guido, and also the many World War 2 pilots who flew this type of aircraft. Guido Zuccoli was one of a few men who had the passion and drive to help establish the Warbird movement in Australia.

Guido acquired the airframe of CAC Boomerang A46-206 and other components, with the assistance of local enthusiasts and members of the Darling Downs Aviation Museum. He then had the fighter rebuilt in the USA in 1990. It was test flown in 1991, disassembled and shipped to Darwin where it was re-assembled and in 1992, was the first Boomerang fighter to fly over Australia since the end of World War II.



It is interesting to note that this aircraft has flown about 280 hours, many more hours than most Boomerangs flew during their wartime service. It is also worth noting that Aerotec Queensland pilot and chief engineer, Wayne Milburn flew a total of 247 of those hours. 'Milingimbi Ghost' is now a static display.



**Mentioned are just some of the aircraft the Museum has on display. See these and more when you visit.**



**The Memorabilia Room traces Army aviation memorabilia from Gallipoli to the present day.**



**Aircraft restoration can be observed on a guided tour at the volunteer's workshop**



**MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN ARMY FLYING  
ARMY AIRFIELD  
OAKLEY QUEENSLAND 4401**  
Phone: 07 46917666  
Fax: 07 4691 7675  
E-mail: [AustArmy.FlyingMuseum@defence.gov.au](mailto:AustArmy.FlyingMuseum@defence.gov.au)  
Web Page: <http://www.army.gov.au/history/museums.htm>



**TOUR BOOKING FORM**

NAME OF GROUP/SCHOOL: .....

IF SCHOOL, AGE/CLASS: .....

PENSIONER / SENIOR / TERTIARY STUDENT (CIRCLE ONE)

NUMBER IN GROUP: ..... DATE OF TOUR: .....

TIME OF ARRIVAL: .....

COST QUOTED: .....

TOUR CONTACT NAME: .....PHONE NUMBER: .....

FAX NUMBER: ..... EMAIL ADDRESS: .....

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: .....

.....  
.....

OTHER COMMENTS: .....

.....  
.....

CONFIRMATION REQUIRED? YES / NO BY: PHONE, FAX, EMAIL (PLEASE CIRCLE)

BROCHURE ETC REQUIRED? YES / NO

**OFFICE STAFF:**

ABOVE DETAILS CONFIRMED: YES / NO CONFIRMATION SENT: YES / NO

BOOKING TAKEN BY: .....

ENTERED IN BOOK AND WALL CHART: YES / NO

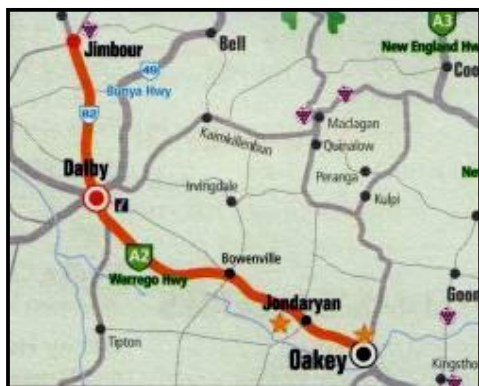
# The Oakey/Darling Downs Experience

There are plenty of other things to do and see whilst visiting the Oakey/Darling Downs area. Why not take a few days to see the other attractions.



## Great Day Drives

### Historical Tour



Start at Oakey, home to the Museum of Australian Army Flying, where you can enjoy a guided tour of the Museum and experience the history of “Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines”

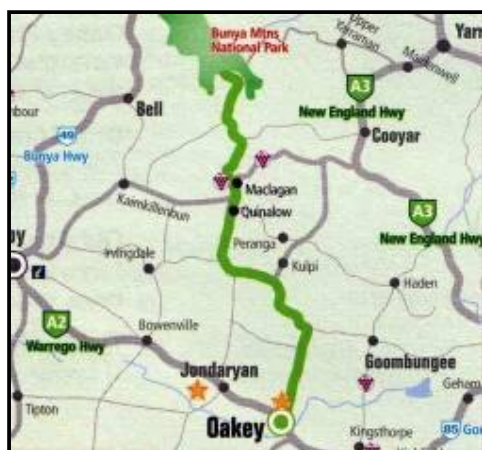
Then onto Jondaryan and to St Annes Anglican Church built in 1859. It is the oldest slab walled church still in regular use in Australia.

It is then a short distance to the historic Jondaryan Woolshed, and Open Air Working Museum of Rural Australian Life. The Jondaryan Woolshed built in 1859 was the first purpose built shearing shed in Australia. The Woolshed complex covers 12 acres and features historic buildings, machinery and equipment. The Jondaryan Woolshed has become famous over the years for the Billy Tea and damper they serve that has been cooked over the coals of an open fire and served with lashings of Cocky’s Joy (golden syrup).



Then drive on across the black soil plains to Dalby where a visit to the beautifully landscaped Thomas Jack Park is a must. It is a good place to stop with its picnic tables, toilets, children’s playground and Visitor Information Centre. Then drive onto Jimbour and a chance to taste award-winning wines at the Jimbour House, built in 1875/76. The cellar door and café is housed in the old water tower.

## Bunya Mountains



The Bunya Mountains, home to the world’s largest bunya pine forest, dominates the surrounding landscape and is the major attraction on the Great Bunya Drive that extends from Toowoomba to Gympie, some 250 kilometres away.

Colourful birdlife abounds in the Bunya Mountains. You can often see king parrots and crimson rosellas as well as wallabies feeding around the picnic areas.

An extensive network of walking tracks cover the Bunya Mountains varying in length from 500 metres to 10kms. These tracks offer plenty of opportunity to observe the panoramic views and diverse vegetation.

## Oakey/Pittsworth/Toowoomba/Oakey Circuit



From Oakey it is a pleasant short drive to Mt Tyson, now famous for its White Mischief Confectionery that is manufactured in the former dairy factory building (open Wednesday to Sunday). An opportunity to buy some nougat, gourmet chocolates, quality fudge or you can just enjoy morning tea.

Travel on to Pittsworth and view the beautiful stained glass windows in St Andrews Church and visit the Pittsworth Pioneer Village. The



village holds one of the best collections of fine lace in Queensland.

The restored Tattersalls Club Hotel has great counter meals. It is a short trip to Westbrook and for the wine connoisseur an opportunity to taste some premium wines at Governor's Choice Winery or take a break at the Westbrook Tavern relaxing on the veranda overlooking the surrounding area.

Travel on the return trip to Oakey through Toowoomba and Kingsthorpe where "wine buffs" can do more tasting at Gowrie Mountain Estate and Wedgetail Ridge Estate. (The wineries are well sign posted along the way).

## Places of Interest to Visit in Oakey



**Historical Museum**



**Oakey RSL - Great for a Meal**



**Campbell Street, Oakey - Great for shopping**



# Oakey Accommodation

## Oakey Motel

1 Toowoomba Road  
Oakey QLD 4401  
Phone: 07 46911000  
Fax: 07 46911034  
Email: [oakeymotel@northnet.com.au](mailto:oakeymotel@northnet.com.au)  
Web Address: [www.oakeymotel.com.au](http://www.oakeymotel.com.au)



## Kelly's Motel Oakey

59 Campbell Street  
Oakey QLD 4401  
Phone 07 46911109  
Fax: 07 46912389  
Email: [kellysmotel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kellysmotel@optusnet.com.au)  
Web Address: [www.kellysmotel.com](http://www.kellysmotel.com)



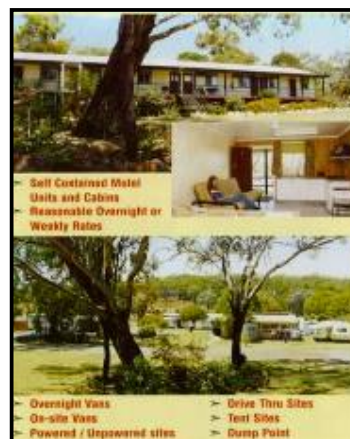
## Park House Motor Inn

27 Campbell Street  
Oakey QLD 4401  
Phone: 07 46911877  
Fax: 07 46912504  
Email: [parkhousemotorinn@bigpond.com.au](mailto:parkhousemotorinn@bigpond.com.au)



## Oakridge Motel & Caravan Park

Toowoomba Road  
Oakey QLD 4401  
Phone: 07 46913330  
Email: [oakridgeoakey@bigpond.com](mailto:oakridgeoakey@bigpond.com)



# The Toowoomba Experience (Garden City of Queensland)

The City of Toowoomba is well known for its exciting history as well as its parks, gardens and scenic views.

This prosperous city is set 700 metres above sea level, on the edge of the Great Dividing Range. It is strategically located at the junction of major highways from Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Darwin and is just 90 minutes drive from the state's capital, Brisbane.

There is so much to see and do in this thriving city of more than 90,000 people, that space limits to showing only some of the options. You can obtain more information from the Toowoomba Visitor Information Centre, 86 James Street, Toowoomba. Phone: (07) 4639 3797 **Freecall 1800 33 11 55**. Website: <http://www.toowoombarc.qld.gov.au/>





**Aerotec, Toowoomba Airport**

**ACCOMMODATION:** Toowoomba has a plentiful array of Hotels and Motels.

**DINING:** Many varied eateries are available in Hotels, Clubs and Restaurants.

**ENTERTAINMENT:** The magnificently restored Empire Theatre holds world-class production shows and entertainers on a regular basis. There are two Movie complexes.

### **TOOWOOMBA/DARLING DOWNS ANNUAL EVENTS:**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| January   | Historic Vehicle Event, Allora (Australia Day Long weekend) |
| Easter    | Easter Vintage Festival, Highfields Pioneer Village         |
| Easter    | Easterfest in Queens Park, Toowoomba                        |
| April     | Toowoomba Show  |
| May       | David Hack Memorial Day at Aerotec, Toowoomba Airport       |
| June      | Farmfest  |
| August    | Wings and Wheels Airshow, Dalby                             |
| August    | Jondaryan Woolshed Heritage Festival                        |
| September | Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers                               |
| September | Agfest, Toowoomba Showgrounds                               |
| October   | Fly-In, Museum of Australian Army Flying, Oakey             |



**Come for a day  
Stay for a week  
Or two!**