



The Murray River & Around

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Stefano's Restaurant (p313)
- ➔ Spoons Riverside Café (p316)
- ➔ Shebani's (p322)
- ➔ Fish in a Flash (p322)
- ➔ Brass Monkey (p313)

Best Places to Sleep

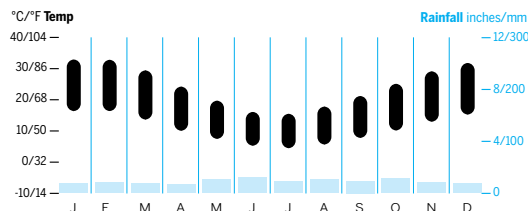
- ➔ Houseboat in Echuca (p322)
- ➔ Mildura Grand (p312)
- ➔ Adelphi Boutique Apartments (p321)
- ➔ Indulge Apartments (p313)
- ➔ Cock 'n Bull Boutique Hotel (p322)

Why Go?

The mighty Murray River is Australia's longest and most important inland waterway, and arrayed along its banks are some of Victoria's most historic and captivating towns. The region is a stirring place of wineries and orchards, bush camping, balmy weather and river red gum forests. The Murray changes character constantly along its 2400km route. History looms large in towns such as Echuca; food and wine dominate proceedings around Mildura; and national parks enclose soulful desert expanses in the far northwest. It's a world of picturesque river beaches, of paddle steamers that were once the lifeblood of Victoria's inland settlements, and of unending horizons that serve as a precursor to the true outback not far away. It's an intriguing, if relatively far-flung mix, that enables you to follow in the footsteps of some of Australia's earliest explorers who travelled along the river.

When to Go

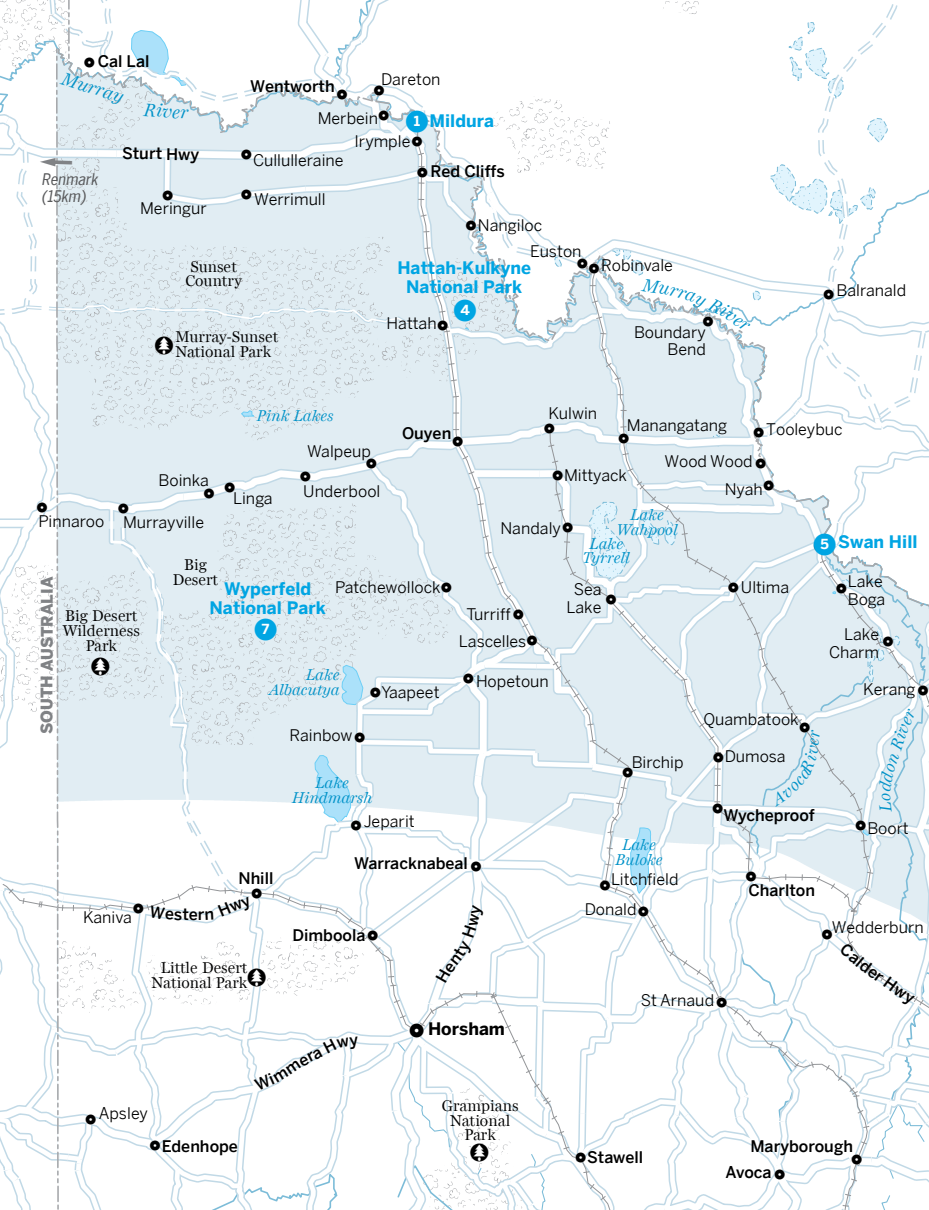
Mildura



Year-round The Murray region, especially Mildura, enjoys year-round sunshine.

Sep–Nov Spring sees some of the best local festivals, without the heat.

Feb & Mar A good time for camping by the river after the holiday crowds have left.



The Murray River & Around Highlights

1 Mildura (p310) Relaxing on a houseboat and dining out on 'Feast Street' in the sunny town.

2 Echuca (p317) Riding an original paddle steamer down the Murray for lunch at a winery in Echuca.

3 Port of Echuca (p317) Exploring the town's past in its discovery centre, old wharf area and historic Murray Esplanade.