

10 JACARANDA SEASON ACTIVITIES!

01 JACARANDAS: SPECTACULAR BY DAY, SENSATIONAL BY NIGHT!

Presumably you're here for Jacaranda Season, so number one on this list HAS to be experiencing the glorious, dreamlike ambience of Grafton's Jacaranda lined avenues and parks. Too much purpleness is never enough! The map overleaf gives you a good indication of the streets to see. From sunrise to sunset, the Jacarandas are an overnight delight. After dark, **ILLUMINATE** at See Park brings them to life in glowing purples so linger a little longer and stay the night.

02 GALLERY VISIT!

Once your senses have been invigorated by the Jacarandas, a visit to the Clarence Valley's hub of fine art – The Grafton Regional Gallery – is a must! Prentice House (the heritage building that is home to part Gallery, part Visitor Information Outlet) is an art-piece in itself. Enjoy the quietude of the courtyard, take the perfect selfie on the famous "big purple chair" and browse the gift shop for your Grafton Jacaranda merch.

Visitor Information Outlet located at the Grafton Regional Gallery, 158 Fitzroy Street.

03 HANG OUT AT THE COOL SIDE OF TOWN

Speaking of creativity ... South Grafton's authentically retro main street has a quirky boho vibe. Eclectic cafes, recycled clothing stores mix with rural supply providers. Murals and arty street blisters reflect local Gumbaynggirr history and culture. The boulevard by the marina provides shade, BBQ and picnic facilities. Catch a local musician at Grumpys Rock Café and spark your curiosity with a selection of oddities and local handmade treasures from House VanChaos, both on Skinner Street.

04 GET ON THAT BIG BEAUTIFUL RIVER!

OK, enough creativity for the moment! Do you have some sort of floating craft in your possession? Perhaps a small tin boat or kayak? If so, make sure to get on our big, beautiful river! It's an easy(ish) paddle from town around Susan Island (depending on the tide!) Susan Island is a registered significant site to the Aboriginal women of the Clarence Valley so please stay on the water.

Pontoons located Prince St Grafton or Skinner St South Grafton.



05 MIGHTY VIEWS OVER THE MIGHTY CLARENCE

If you're looking for great photo opportunities, may we suggest getting above street level and taking in a birds eye view. Loop the loop over both Grafton bridges for the best views over the water while getting your steps up. If you have tired legs from all the exploring, why not chill out at Grafton's Waterfront Precinct. Find the perfect spot for a picnic while the kids scooter the accessible path that takes you from Memorial Park along the riverbank.

06 TIME TRAVEL! (SORT OF)

Until we iron out some bugs with our backyard time machine, Grafton's Walking and Cycling Heritage Trail is still the best way to visit another era. Set your coordinates to 1884 and marvel at the Christ Church Cathedral or 1893 if you're more intrigued by the imposing Grafton Gaol. Time machine on the blink? Don't panic. Step back in time, figuratively and literally, with a visit to Schaeffer House Museum or the Remember When Cottage instead.

07 STROLL FIG TREE AVENUE

The Jacarandas may get all the glory but trust us, this garden city has got more than one tree up its sleeve! This magnificent avenue of giant fig trees is a National Trust listed site. They form an arch about 30 metres above the asphalt, making it a lovely cool spot to wander and wonder.

Breimba Street Grafton, access 'Fig Tree Ave' from Bacon Street. Green space is at corner of Breimba and Pound Street.

08 TAKE A PIECE OF JACA HOME WITH YOU

Yes, Jacaranda season may only last a few weeks, and we know this just isn't long enough to enjoy the purple haze. Thankfully there are some great places, selling some great jacaranda inspired things that you can take home with you. While you stop by at the Visitor Information Outlet, have a browse through the Grafton Regional Gallery store, where you will find an array of locally sourced products and jaca inspired gifts. You'll find lots of Grafton- themed gifts dotted in stores on both sides of the bridge so keep your eyes peeled.

09 EAT AND DRINK!

We should have put this at number two after the Jacarandas!

Here in G-Town there are myriad epic places to eat, drink and relax. There's top class coffee, great seafood (the coast is only a hop, skip and jump away), and all your dietary requirements will be catered for. Look out for purple treats including purple icecream, cakes, cocktails and even purple bread at most local cafes and restaurants during Jacaranda Season, but you might have to fight us for them!

10 EXPLORE MORE!

Extend your stay and experience more of the Clarence Valley. Enjoy the quaint and quirky riverside village of Ulmarra just a 15-minute drive north, where heritage buildings are home to antique treasures, art galleries and good food. For the adventure seekers amongst you, check out the Clarence Canoe and Kayak trail or the 65km Yuraygir Coastal Walk – both nearby and ready to create unforgettable experiences for you.

Visit www.myclarencevalley.com for more inspiration and to download the Clarence Valley Visitor Guide



Get all the latest
Jacaranda Information
here



We'd love to see Jacaranda season through your eyes – tag **@MyClarenceValley** for a chance to be featured on our popular socials



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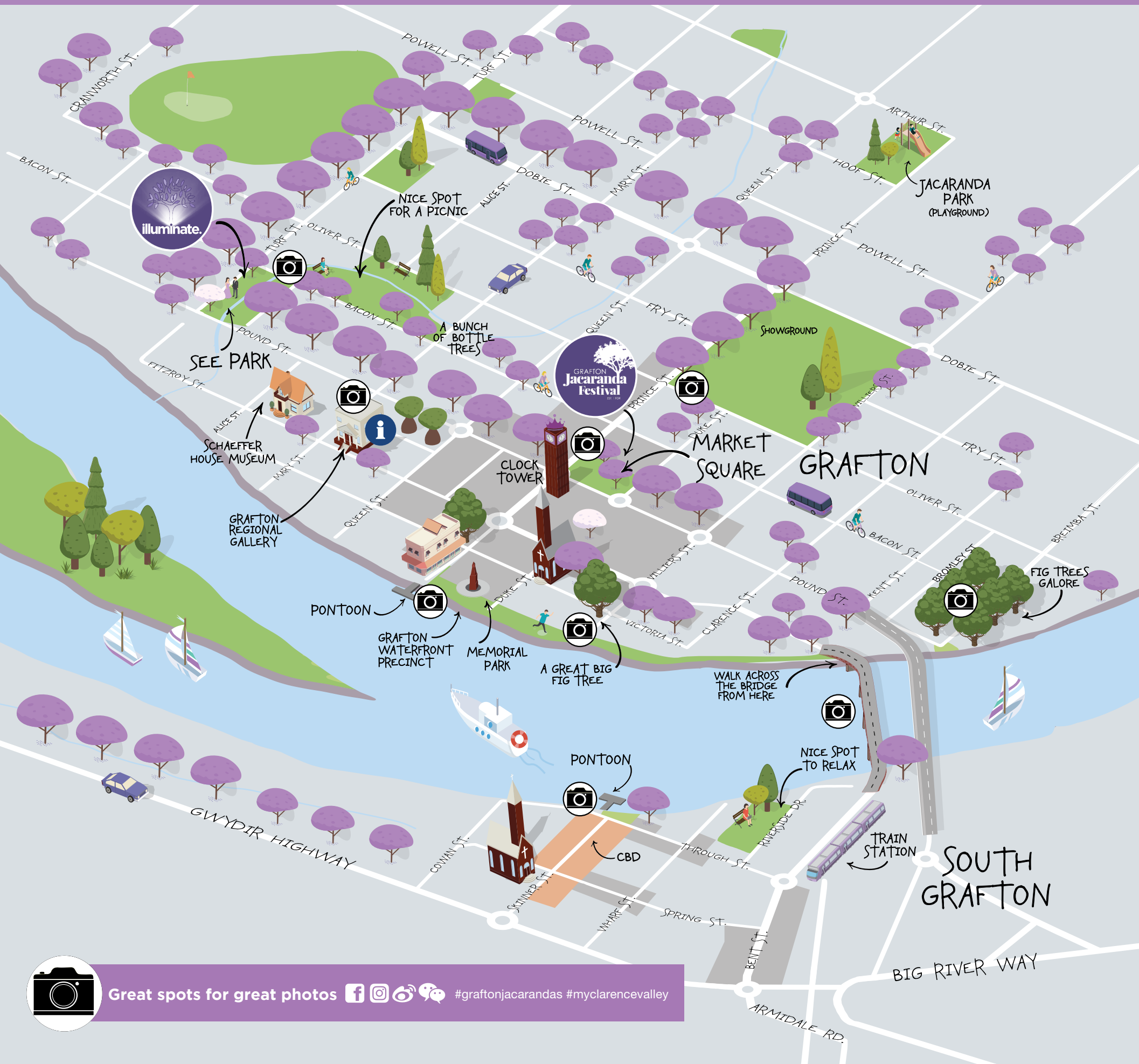


#BundjalungCountry #GumbaynggirrCountry

3 WEEKS OF
FULL BLOOMS

100's OF PHOTO
OPPORTUNITIES

1700 JACARANDA
TREES



A FEW THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT JACARANDA SEASON...



Image: Destination NSW

When is Grafton's Jacaranda Season

Jacaranda season is surprisingly brief, which only makes the experience more rare and memorable.

Generally speaking, the purple blossoms start to show themselves in early-to mid October. The second half of October sees the streets and parks of Grafton look like something out of a dream, with the trees in full bloom. (And that dream becomes even dreamier at night in See Park when

Image: Destination NSW

"Illuminate" lights up the Jacarandas!) By mid-November, the roads and footpaths are carpeted in fallen purple blossoms as the Jacarandas prepare to don their lighter, green summer outfits.

How about Grafton's Jacaranda Festival?

The Jacaranda Festival occurs over the last week of October and first week of November. Embrace a little piece of yesteryear with the highly anticipated Royal Party crowning, or line the streets to watch the annual float parade. Live music events will get your feet dancing and children's events will keep the little ones happy. The Jacaranda Festival really does have something for everyone.

Priding themselves on being all-inclusive, all ages and an all-weather celebration, this 10-day festival is the longest floral festival in Australia for a reason!

One of the most popular days is “Jacaranda Thursday”, where the CBD is party central, business dress up and people meander through the streets soaking up the atmosphere.

Getting here and getting around

It's easy to get to Grafton by road, train or plane. Coffs Harbour Airport is only 1 hour south, and Ballina Byron Gateway Airport is 1.5 hours north. Catch the Sydney to Brisbane XPT service to Grafton Train Station or if you're driving , ETA is 7 hours from Sydney, 3 from Brisbane, 3 from Armidale and 2 from Gold Coast. Once here it's pretty easy to get around by foot. No steep hills, not too much traffic and the best way to soak up the purple beauty is by foot or bike.



Great spots for great photos #griftonjacarandas #myclarencevalley