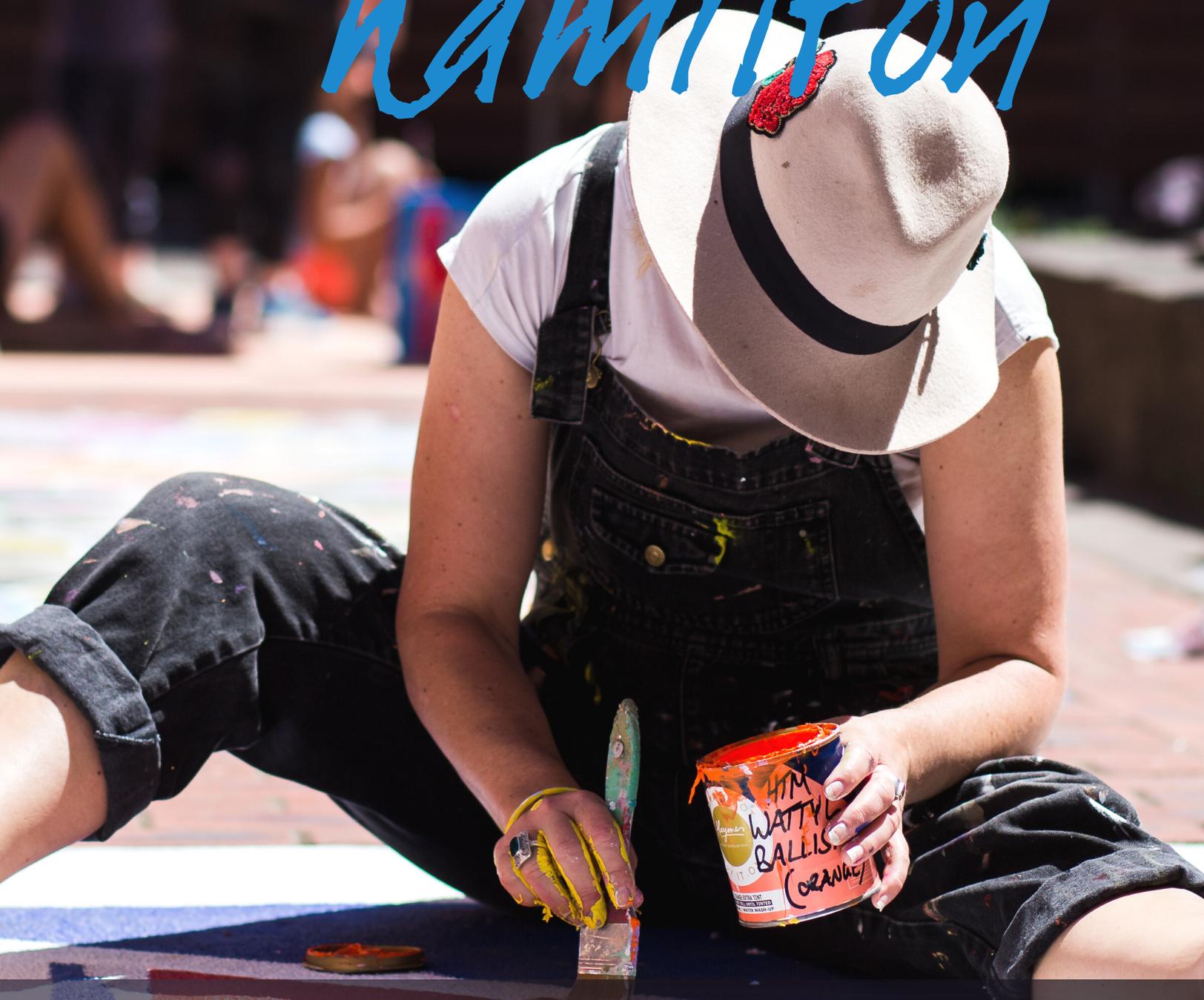


# greater hamilton



## INSTAGRAM IN REAL LIFE

AS SEEN ON INSTA.  
WE GIVE YOU THE  
INSPO + INFO  
BEHIND SOME FAVES

## ROCK YOUR WORLD

GEAR UP FOR AN  
ADVENTURE TO  
ROCKLANDS

## ULTIMATE LIST

OUR TOP 50 THINGS  
TO DO IN GREATER  
HAMILTON

# CONTENTS

04

## ROCK YOUR WORLD: ROCKLANDS

An extraordinary escape between two epic State and National Parks.

An opportunity to reconnect, explore and discover.

08

## AN INTERVIEW WITH CASEY MANSON

Local legend, Casey Manson - the person, painter and personality behind the creative masterpieces of Grotti Lotti.

09

## 5 HOT COFFEE HOTSPOTS

Richly roasted, barista made and sensationally served - these Greater Hamilton cafes rival the best of the best.

10

## INSTAGRAM IN REAL LIFE

You've seen it on Insta, now we give you the low down on some of the most insta-worthy sights around Greater Hamilton.

12

## 50+ THINGS TO DO IN GREATER HAMILTON

With so much adventure to seek, food to eat and fun to have in this great region, we've narrowed it down and devised a definitive check list of over 50 must dos.

14

## HENTY WINE REGION

Premium quality wines, boutique cellar doors, breathtaking landscapes - welcome to Henty Wine Region.

## INSPIRED BY LOCALS ISSUE NO. 1

Cover Image: Artist Jasmine Mansbridge painting McGuigan's Lane, Hamilton, by Emma Gillespie

📍 Mt Rouse, Penshurst

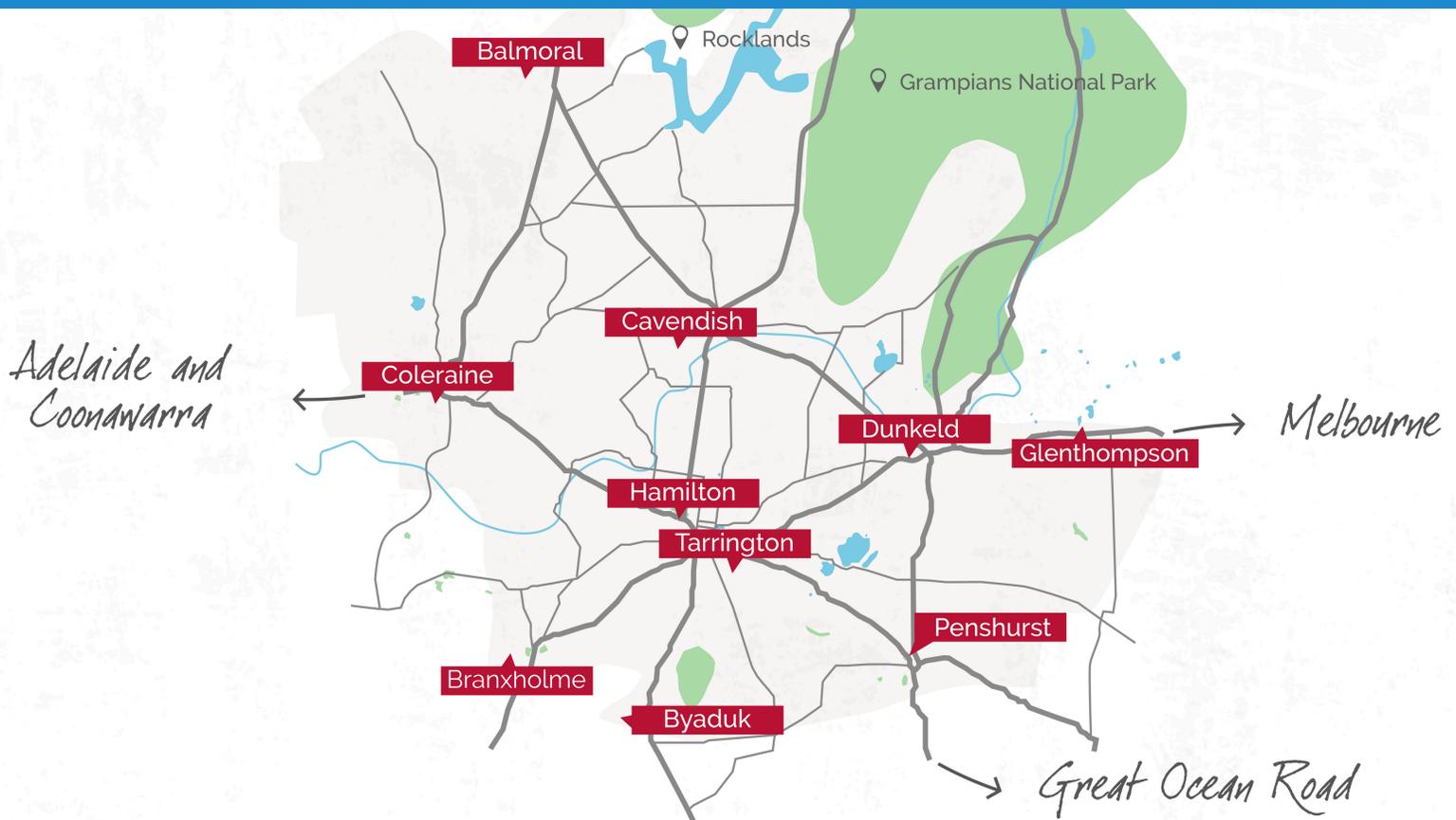


# Welcome

We are delighted to be welcoming you to our wonderful part of Victoria!  
The Greater Hamilton region, also known as the Southern Grampians,  
is full of surprises.

We've curated some of our favourite places and experiences,  
recommendations and inspiration direct from our locals, the people who know  
this region the best.

With trusted advice and personalised tips, explore and experience Greater  
Hamilton like a local, the way it should be.



Talk to a passionate local any day 1800 807 056

or

Connect with us on socials @visitgreaterhamilton or  
#visitgreaterhamilton



VISITGREATERHAMILTON.COM.AU



📍 Glendinning Campground

# ROCK YOUR WORLD: ROCKLANDS

by Stacey Barnes

Enjoy an extraordinary escape to Rocklands Reservoir; 67.5 square kilometres of pristine natural landscape that is bursting with vibrant wildflowers, native wildlife, rocky terrain, rolling ranges and crystal waters. This place will rock your world!

Situated 13kms east of Balmoral, Rocklands Reservoir is the second largest reservoir in Victoria! Famed for its fishing, renowned for its wonderous walking trails and revelled in for its endless water-based escapades, Rocklands Reservoir is the place to head to reconnect, explore and adventure...

Bring your furry friend too, as Rocklands is pet-friendly! What better place is there to relax by the campfire with your four-legged companion.

Both Rocklands & Balmoral Caravan Parks offer powered sites, or why not go bush! Unplugging has never been so easy with six free (non-powered) campgrounds primely positioned on the banks of the Reservoir. Look out for the location buoys to find these secluded sites- no bookings are required, but they operate on a first-come-first-served basis, so arrive early to secure the best views and water access!



**HOT TIP** A road trip to Rocklands requires an (almost) mandatory visit to Balmoral for a selfie or two in front of their colourful Mural.

**“What did I come here to do? Reconnect. Hear the birds. To get away from distractions.”**



@jakebrenton via Insta



@jsullivan.rochelle via Insta

Exploration and relaxation are optimised here without the distraction of devices- since screen time of late has been increasing, it's time to unplug from technology and rejuvenate yourself amongst nature.

No longer confined to your home, wander the sensational surrounds of Rocklands. Limited by only how far your legs can carry you, trek your way beside the Reservoir by taking to the plethora of pathways around the water wonderland or by visiting nearby Blank Range State Park.

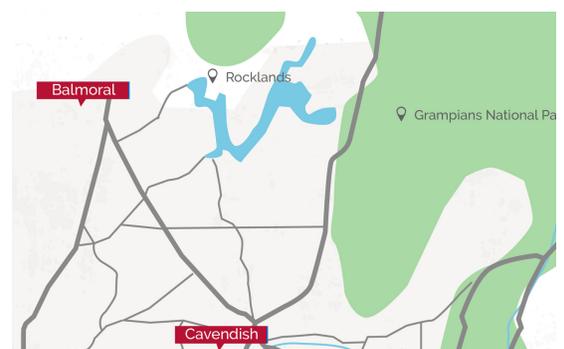
This hidden gem plays host to some magnificent bushwalking trails including, The Mudagadjiin Shelter walk (400m return), The Rock Escarpment Discovery walk (5km return) and Mt Byron trek (3km return).

These tracks, pathways and hikes around Rocklands are abundant with wildflowers, towering native Australian trees, mighty rock formations, magnificent water views, wildlife and fresh air aplenty. You could even find gemstones like quartz crystals if you're keen for a fossick!

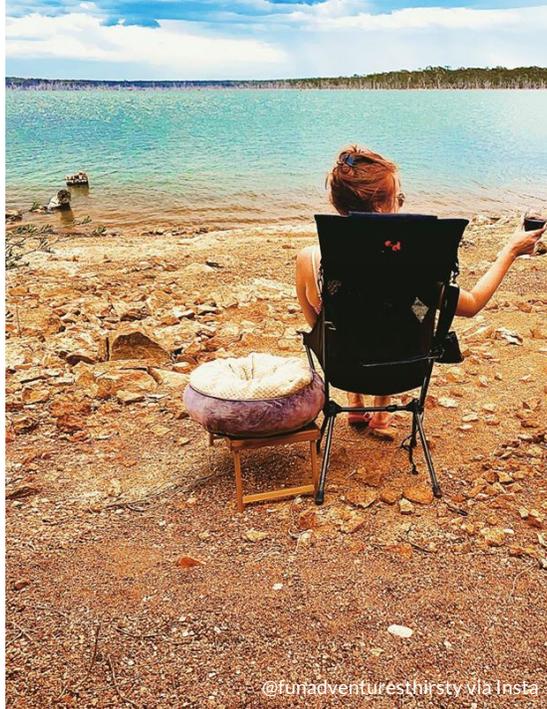
With a spectacular body of water at Rocklands' heart, it stands to reason that immersing yourself in a world of water-based escapades is a must. Renowned fishing spots and ample space for water skiing, swimming, boating and canoeing are literally at your doorstep, or should we say, tent flap...

So, set up camp, pull up a chair and breathe in your epic surrounds on your escape to Rocklands Reservoir.

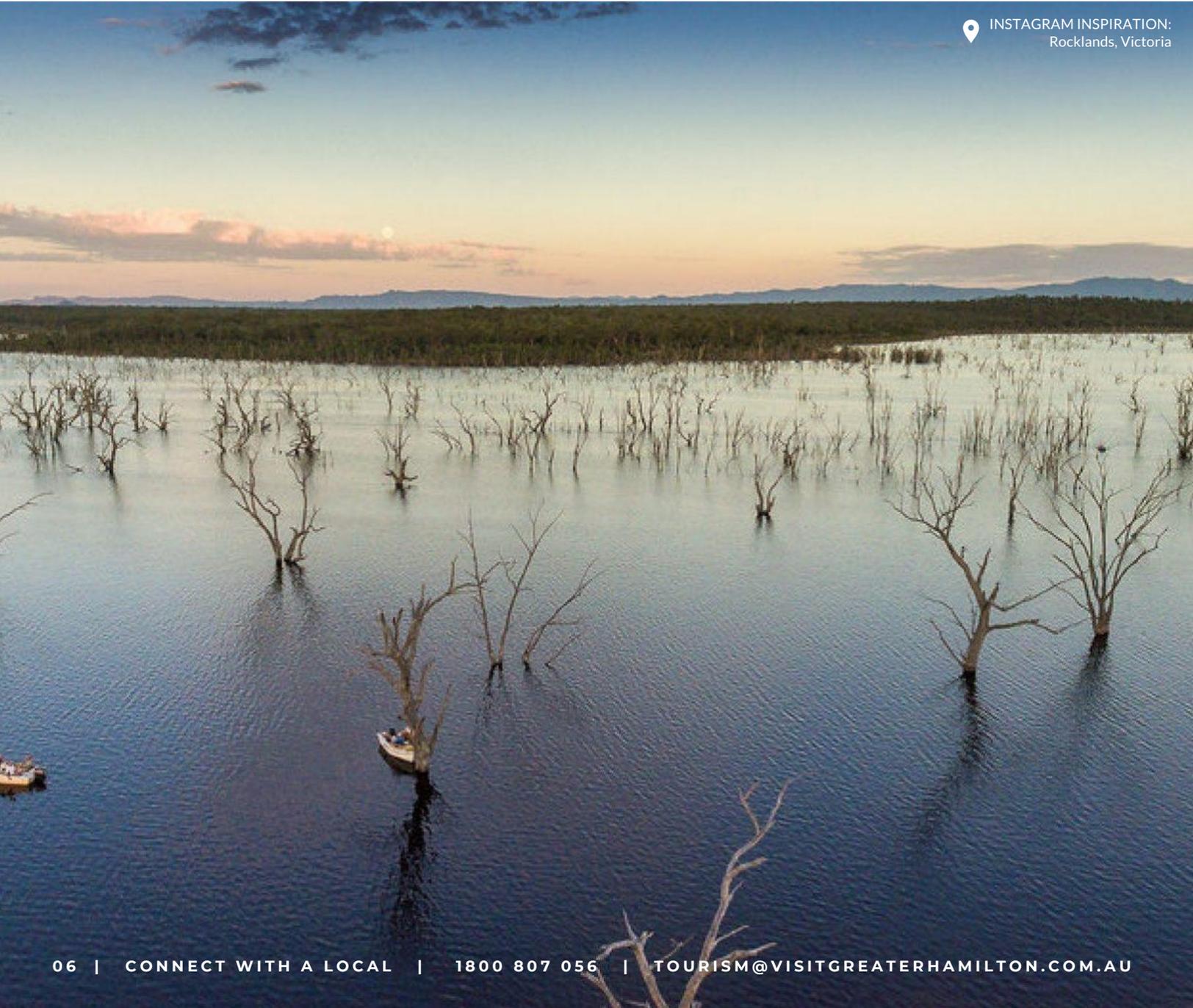
**Wildflowers,  
towering native  
Australian trees,  
mighty rock  
formations,  
magnificent  
water views,  
wildlife and fresh  
air aplenty!**



 **Search on Instagram for Rocklands Reservoir.**



📍 INSTAGRAM INSPIRATION:  
Rocklands, Victoria





# Q&A

## 5 MINUTES WITH CASEY MANSON

**Making an impact on the art world, Grotti Lotti paints vibrant and contemporary nature-inspired art, stocks shops and markets nationwide, runs a successful online store, ships her pieces worldwide and all while being a spirited mum to three lively children.**

**Somewhere, in between all this, kind-hearted and local-loving Grotti Lotti took some time out to talk Greater Hamilton, her art and how the two blends together to create something very special.**

**How long have you lived in Greater Hamilton?**

On and off since I was 2 years old. I have gysied about a bit but it always brings me back.

**What brought you to the region?**

Family.

**What do you love most about Greater Hamilton?**

The community, the mountains, the kid's schools and the affordability.

**What is your favourite memory or experience here?**

Oh, I have them weekly. We're only a short drive from the most amazing mountain ranges and the beach. Our family spends quite a bit of time exploring, hiking, camping and hunting out new cafes and experiences within the region.

**When creating, where is your favourite place to work from?**

Oh, that's a hard one. We have recently renovated and I have my very own studio at home. It's a pretty lovely space to be, especially in the colder months. I also LOVE to paint outside and when the weather turns it on, I can often be found at my mum's bush block under the gums with a large canvas on the go.

**How do you get your creativity flowing?**

A weekly Grampians walk is a must, time in nature, a good podcast or some music.

*Watch this video to see Casey's art and passion for the area come to life >*



# What's Open?

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We've compiled a go-to list  
for your next visit to the  
**Greater Hamilton Region.**  
Want to know what's open,  
where you can get a coffee?

---

[Click Me](#)

# 5 Hot Coffee Hotspots.

## TOSCA BROWNS

Renowned to Hamilton locals and loved by visitors. Serving up breakfast, brunch, lunch and coffee on a daily with consistent excellence and flair, in spaces that exude rustic charm and quirkiness.

## JACK + JUDE

Meet Jack + Jude; a very hip and cool cafe in Hamilton. Rocking a scrumptious seasonal menu and daily specials, these guys know their food and coffee.

## THE CATCHING PEN

A very friendly atmosphere and delicious refreshments found in the heart of Coleraine. Their veritable feast of food includes goodies baked with love and stellar pies!

## IZZY'S CAFE

Located in the beautiful setting of Parker Street, Dunkeld, Izzy's is a delightful, warm and welcoming dine-in and takeaway restaurant that serves up the delectable Illy coffee, sweet Timboon ice-cream, European style pizzas and towering burgers.

Discover more coffee hotspots on [our website!](#)

## The Roxburgh



## THE ROXBURGH

Passionate about coffee, this family-run cafe spreads itself across a gorgeous two-storey bluestone building and adjoining laneway in Hamilton. Their menu is laden with tastes and treats; decadent hot chocolates made with Lindt chocolate, house-made pizza topped with fresh and flavourful toppings, comforting tea brewed from T2's extensive range, traditional toasties, lavish platters of cheeses and dips, a locally-embracing wine selection and so much more!



@dans\_n70hilux



@warren\_of\_the\_wild



@leigh\_branxholme\_vintage

### HIDDEN TREASURES

Discover Leigh's upcycled homewares and retro finds at Braxholme Vintage.

### GREETINGS FROM BYADUK

Unearth Australia's youngest volcanic precinct at the Byaduk Caves.

# Instagram In real life.

### DUNKELD MADE

Ethical and sustainable creations made with heart by sisters, Kellie and Emma, just beneath the Southern Grampians.

### HANDMADE CHOCOLATES

Learn about the art of chocolate-making with Erika in Coleraine's Glenelg Fine Chocolates.



@folktribeclothing



@visitgreaterhamilton



@motoringadventure





@cafegray109

@funadventuresthirsty

@\_hopeandco\_

@krys\_kot85

**CAFFEINE TIME**  
Colourful nourish bowls, fresh juice bar & organic coffee served up by Jess & Tim at Cafe Gray.

**VENTURE**  
mountainous ranges, rocky escarpments, breathtaking views- Black Range State Park has it all.

 **#visitgreaterhamilton**

**CHOOSE YOUR PACE**  
wander, trek, amble, hike. You decide - the Grampians National Park awaits.

**CREATIVITY CENTRE**  
arts and culture in abundance in the vibrant Hamilton arts scene.

@gmfurnituredunkeld

# 50+ THINGS TO DO IN GREATER HAMILTON

## BALMORAL

- + Envelope yourself in colour with the Instagrammable backdrop of the Balmoral Mural
- + Snag a Rocklands Reddie, walk along the dam wall or stand-up paddleboard your way around the Rocklands Reservoir
- + See a rare albino fox, preserved and housed in the Western Hotel
- + Play a game of twilight golf at the Balmoral Golf Club
- + See the Aboriginal rock art at Black Range State Park
- + Find a bargain in the Balmoral Opportunity Shop
- + Explore the larger-than-life sculptures at Seymour Park
- + Breathe in the serenity and tranquillity of the Glenelg River on the Wetlands and River Redgum Walk

## BRANXHOLME

- + Locate the historic gravestone of a soldier of the Boer war, Private C. McKinnon (1879-1901) at the Branxholme Cemetery
- + Learn about the early settlers of the region by visiting The Heritage Park where a timeline of the town and a pioneers wall is situated
- + Enjoy a game of darts and a frothy at the Junction Hotel
- + Purchase a one-of-a-kind signature folded book art from Branxholme Vintage Co
- + Experience country hospitality at Stalkers Bend

## BYADUK

- + Add a unique item to your wardrobe from Vintage Vision
- + Visit one of only three sites in the world to have tumuli (lava blisters)
- + Find yourself a vintage treasure at the Byaduk General Store
- + Walk the track along a cave's edge at the Byaduk Caves
- + 4WD Mount Napier State Park
- + Walk down the Avenue of Honour; a picturesque pathway planted with 40 silky oak trees to commemorate World War One veterans.



## CAVENDISH

- + Dine on delectable dishes at the Bunyip Hotel
- + Devour Bridge Cafe's famed and sensational sausage roll
- + Picnic on the banks of the Wannon River
- + Snap a sensational shot of the Trestle Bridge
- + Fossick for a gem at the designated fossicking site on Hallams Road
- + Bear witness to how punishment was once delivered at the Old Bluestone Goal (located on the Settlers Walk)
- + Snag a Redfin from the Wannon River
- + Clamber up the unique rock stacks on the Chimney Pots Hike in the Grampians National Park

## COLERAINE

- + Have a hit on the grounds of the second oldest continuously playing cricket club in the world
- + Decide which cream-filled chocolate delight is your favourite at Glenelg Fine Chocolates
- + Explore over 500 magnificent species of eucalypt at the Peter Francis Points Arboretum
- + Appreciate the local artwork and tales of yesteryear on the side of Australia Post Building and Op Shop
- + Get lost in the images of a bygone era at the Coleraine Tourist Centre
- + Hook a Rainbow Trout at Konongwootong Reservoir
- + Get all revved up at Coleraine Classic Cars
- + Follow the footsteps of jockey and poet Adam Lindsay Gordon at the Coleraine Racecourse
- + Grab your camera and watch the spectacular power of Nigretta Falls.

## DUNKELD

- + Take yourself along the scenic walking track at the Dunkeld Arboretum, meander your way around the labyrinth or relax with a picnic
- + Indulge yourself at one of the many local cafés (hint, the almond croissants at Dunkeld Old Bakery are not to be missed).
- + Hike your way to the peak of one of Dunkeld's famous Mountain Walks
- + Keep an eye out for kangaroos at sunset on the Dunkeld School Oval
- + Travelling with a dog? Set up camp at the Dunkeld Caravan Park, they're pet friendly!
- + Enjoy a hit of golf at the base of Mount Abrupt at the Grampians Golf Club



Nigretta Falls, captured by @55Chris via Instagram



Delicious treats by Dunkeld Old Bakery

## GLENTHOMPSON

- + Admire Gareth Colliton's one-of-kind, distinctly country-Australian mural at the Anglican Church
- + View the southern range of the Grampians in its entirety at Robson's Lookout
- + Capture the gloriously vibrant yellow hues of the canola fields in Spring
- + Read fascinating written accounts of former Glenthompson residents at the Glenthompson History Centre
- + Let the kids run wild, swinging from the monkey bars and roaring down the slide at the Lions Park
- + See the turbines of the Oaklands Hill Wind Farm spin

## HAMILTON

- + Kick the footy at Melville Oval before heading across to the award-winning King's Bakery (est. 1913)
- + Enjoy some authentic Thai cuisine at Racha Thai and Thai Town
- + Sit back, relax, grab a choc top and enjoy the latest releases at the Hamilton Cinema
- + Wander the streets of Hamilton's CBD and explore the collection of Laneway art created by local artists
- + Spot an endangered Eastern Barred Bandicoot in its natural habitat at the Hamilton Parklands Bandicoot Enclosure
- + Keep the kids entertained at the new Mini Masters space in the Hamilton Art Gallery



## PENSHURST

- + Try your hand at catching a fish at one of the four ponds generated by the everlasting spring
- + Get hands on learning about volcanoes at the Peshurst Volcanoes Discovery Centre located in the heart of the third largest volcanic plain on Earth
- + Enjoy a taste of local wine with a French style meal at the European style Penny Bistro & Wine Bar
- + Explore the Crater Lake at the base of Mount Rouse and catch a glimpse of some local wildlife
- + Enjoy the peacefulness of Peshurst's everlasting spring in the Botanic Gardens
- + Call in for a coffee and sweet treat at Peshurst Store and browse their range of local products, homewares and clothing

## TARRINGTON

- Enjoy a picnic in the beautiful surroundings at the recreation reserve
- Zip into Bloomfield Cottage Antiques if you're after a rare find to remember your visit
- On your bikes! Take the 10km trail to Tarrington from Hamilton or vice versa for a laidback and picturesque cycling experience
- Stop for a meal at Café Catalpa for a soul-warming and authentic dining experience
- Check out some of the wonderful wineries of the Henty Wine region including Pierrepont Wines, Hockkirch Wines and Tarrington Vineyards
- Take a gander at the grandeur and the beautiful Gothic style of St Michael's Lutheran Church

St Michael's Lutheran Church, Tarrington





## CONNECT LOCAL

Meet the story tellers, experience makers and keepers of local legends.

[Click Me](#)

## BUY LOCAL

Get a piece of Greater Hamilton delivered to your door.

[Click Me](#)

## BOOK LOCAL

Book direct with our welcoming accommodation hosts.

[Click Me](#)

*Curated by locals, just for you.*

# Henty Wine Region



## A Sample of our Finest

by Hugh Koch

The Greater Hamilton region is renowned for its rich, fertile soils which in turn gives rise to not only a delectable array of produce but also a reserve of refined wines. The cool climatic conditions and sufficiently suitable sun exposure means that this region (also known as the Henty Wine Region) produces grapes sought after by other regions.

### PIERREPOINT WINES

Pierrepoint Wines is a small family vineyard, winery and bed and breakfast, south west of Tarrington at the foothills of Mount Pierrepoint.

The vineyard is managed with traditional care, and without the use of chemicals – you'll see geese, ducks and chickens roaming free, controlling pests naturally.

Estate Pinot Gris, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir are best enjoyed

alongside a Pierrepoint platter; Dukkah, olive oil, Turkish bread, Meredith Dairy feta, olives, quince paste, aged cheddar, smoked salmon, prosciutto, rhubarb relish and many more tasty morsels.

Lay it all out on Pierrepoint's lush lawns, outdoor or indoor tables and graze away as you watch the sun dance off the vines.

### HOCHKIRCH WINES

This family-owned and family-run vineyard in Tarrington has a distinct point of difference.

Committed to Rudolf Steiner's biodynamic approach to agriculture, Hochkirch Wines actively engage biodynamic methods to grow their fruit and complete their post-harvest process. As such, their fruit is flavourful, the wines vibrant and the development sustainable.

Hochkirch wines, and those from the 12 other wineries of the Henty Wine region are stocked in our restaurants, cafes and bottle shops.

The region has some well-known wine regions nearby within an easy drive. The Henty wine region stretches from the Great Ocean Road's Port Fairy and Warrnambool, up to the historic Grampians wine region, or hop over the border - some of our wineries are only 90 minutes from the Coonawarra.





SPOTLIGHT ON...

# BOCHARA WINES

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This five-acre vineyard site was specifically selected for its well-drained buckshot gravel soil and a north facing aspect which in turn produces a choice grape for such varieties as Pinot Noir, Sauvignon Blanc and Gewurztraminer.

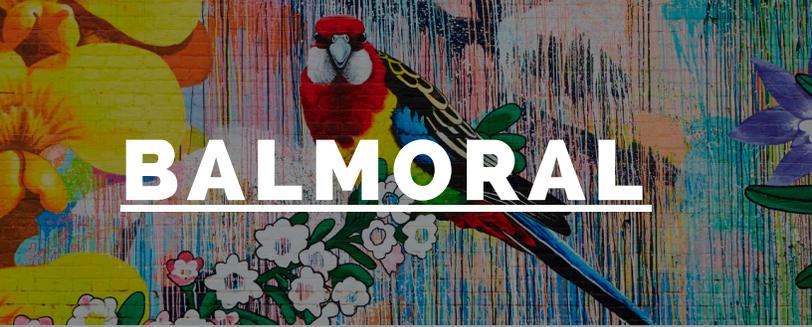
The charming cellar door of Bochara (a former home of a returned WWI Light Horseman built in the 19th century) affords an idyllic tasting area and verandah to take in the vineyard's magnificent expanse.

Visiting the cellar door means you can try wines that you may not have tasted before free of charge, see the vineyards the grapes have come from and even talk with the producers Martin Slocombe and Kylie McIntyre.

**We asked Martin for his insider insights about the Henty Wine Regions' finest sips:**

"Pinot noir is a star performer. Because we get lots of sunshine for such a cool climate region, pinots from the Henty wine region have great colour, abundant fruit flavour and good structure. Gewurztraminer is another one to look out for. The conditions here really suit it with producers typically making a drier style with outstanding varietal expression. All that makes for a very food-friendly wine. Of course, the region also produces sparkling wine, riesling, sauvignon blanc, chardonnay, pinot gris and shiraz that are amongst the best to be found anywhere!"

*Read the full interview with Martin on [our blog!](#)*



# BALMORAL



# BRANXHOLME



# BYADUK



# CAVENDISH



# COLERAINE



# DUNKELD

# WE WELCOME YOU!

Ten unique towns, countless amazing experiences.

Spoilt for choice, when you visit the Greater Hamilton region you have not one but TEN townships to explore, playing host to an immeasurable amount of highlights...

*'The space, the fresh air, the people, the delightful surprises. Our visitors are simply too blessed to be stressed.'*

Wander the streets of Hamilton, freshly made coffee in hand, taking in the architectural forms, vibrant colourings, geometric shapes, structured statues, painted paths and embellished walls of the local art scene.

Step foot onto the site of a once active volcano, Peshurst's Mount Rouse. Take in the magnificent views of the Western District Plains from its peak, walk around its crater lake, witnessing firsthand the depth and breadth of this natural wonder.



# HAMILTON

# A TRIP TO REMEMBER.

People you'll love meeting,  
places you'll never forget.

Dine at Dunkeld's critically acclaimed Royal Mail Hotel; home of fine-dining restaurant, Wickens, a 2-hatted restaurant with the most remarkable 28,000 bottle wine cellar.

30 minutes south of the region take in the breathtaking cultural landscape of Budj Bim, home to an ancient aquaculture system, dating back 6600 years and of more recent times, a UNESCO World Heritage-listed site – the first location in Australia to receive World Heritage protection solely for its Aboriginal cultural importance.

Behold the flow and tributary of not one but two spectacular waterfalls, Wannon Falls and Nigretta Falls, both an easy drive from the township of Coleraine.

Foodie feasts, wine sips, rocky climbs, awe-inspiring expanses, historic wanderings, vibrant man-made masterpieces, naturally created wonders. From each superb township to the next, there is something vastly different to discover and experience.



# GLENTHOMPSON



# PENSHURST



# TARRINGTON



# #VISITGREATERHAMILTON

Friends trust friends, not ads. So we've gathered our local tribe to tell us about their favourite places, spaces and things to do in our region. So, your next trip will be inspired by locals. [www.inspiredbylocals.com.au](http://www.inspiredbylocals.com.au)