



# DISCOVERING DUNKELD

## The attraction to Dunkeld is instant.

Having farewelled the vista of the 12-Apostles, or the Coonawarra Vineyards a mere two hours prior, your arrival at Dunkeld is imminent. The first sighting of the searing peaks of Mt Sturgeon (Wurgarri) and Mt Abrupt (Mud-Dadjug) puncturing through the surrounding fertile soils, commands your immediate attention and awe.

These two almighty mountainous sentinels have been guarding the landscape of the Djap Wurrong country for over 400-million years. Since European settlement they have served to signify the southern tip of the Grampians (Gariwerd) mountain range. They are an embracing welcome.

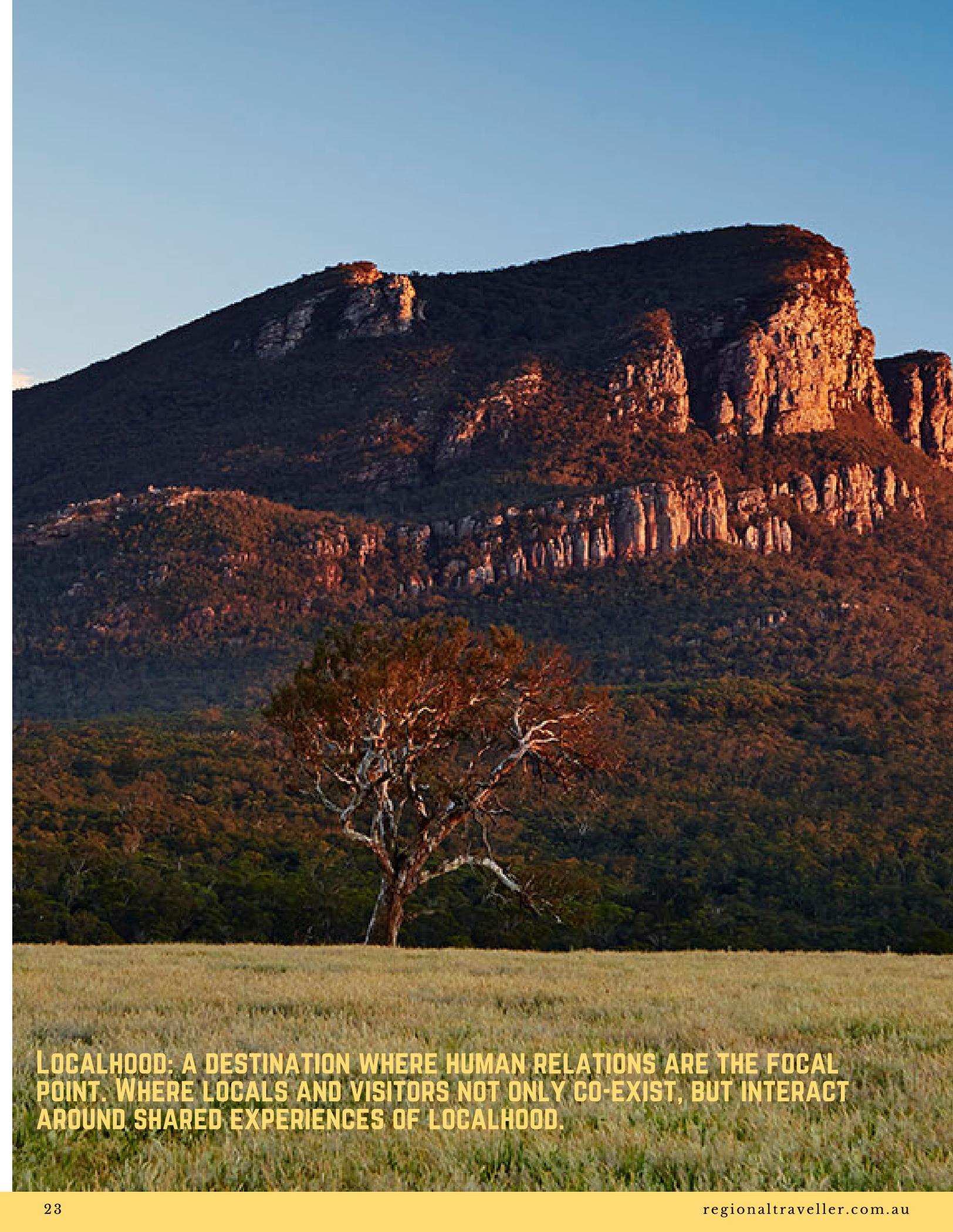
Dunkeld celebrates its natural environment in all magnificent shapes and forms. Whether you choose to admire the imposing landscapes from afar, or immerse yourself through hiking tracks and trails, it truly is a destination that rewards exploration.

The small community of welcoming locals embraces visitors as they would life-long friends. They too want the experience to be significant, authentic and memorable. The maker, the grower, the barista, the chef, the artist, the volunteer are all proud members of their localhood – folks with unrelenting passion for Dunkeld and its stories.

So how has this come about? The redevelopment of the Royal Mail Hotel in 1997 reimagined the destiny of Dunkeld from that of merely surviving to that of thriving.

In the ensuing decades, this charming village has evolved into a world class dining destination, Wickens at Royal Mail Hotel, complemented by enriching, authentic, local experiences that today's discerning traveller yearns for.

The collective local commitment to valuing visitors is evident at every step in the Dunkeld experience. It starts with the devoted volunteers at the Dunkeld & Grampians Visitor Information Centre who generously share insights and offer inspired itineraries to guarantee an enriching stay.



**LOCALHOOD: A DESTINATION WHERE HUMAN RELATIONS ARE THE FOCAL POINT. WHERE LOCALS AND VISITORS NOT ONLY CO-EXIST, BUT INTERACT AROUND SHARED EXPERIENCES OF LOCALHOOD.**



At the Dunkeld Museum, Joyce, an affable team member connects you with stories of Ramsay Hay and his friendship with Bobby from the Indigenous community.

Roz at Old & Rare Books, renowned for her warmth, offers unique insights into the works of authors of a bygone-era.

Gerard, a master craftsman, openly shares his expertise on crafting ancient redgum timber into tomorrow's heirlooms.

Acclaimed artist, Ros, invites you into her world of still life and contemporary works as she creates another impressive artwork.



Perhaps though, some of the lingering memories, etched in your heart and mind years from your initial visit, will be made possible by the volunteer-carers of the surrounding environment.

As you wander Dunkeld's tranquil Arboretum, memorial park, the expansive Grampians Peaks Trail, or the winding Salt Creek Walk, let your experience be embellished by the knowledge these "naturally-spoilt" precincts are tendered by thousands of hours, each and every year, by zealous locals - all proudly sharing with you that which is uniquely Dunkeld.

What we've collectively endured this past year has provided clarity and the opportunity to re-adjust our values – and the lessons are clear.



Life is to be embraced. Authentic experiences are valued. And finally, there's power in true connection. My friend, this is what Dunkeld offers.