

# Welcome

## 'Experience the beauty of the magnificent Richmond River at Casino on the Riverbank Scenic Walk'

The Richmond River's banks leisurely wrap around Casino offering delightful views and peaceful strolls for visitors of all ages.

On mild winter mornings and hot summer days, the Richmond River is the place to cool your feet and take in the natural beauty of this thriving ecosystem. Spy a platypus or catch a river zephyr while enjoying a picnic or refreshing cup of tea or coffee.

All year round the waterbirds play amongst the bubbling pools and rocks of the riverbed where a constant, gentle current of clear mountain water makes its way downstream. Casino's riverbank parklands offer excellent viewing points for the rockpools, and an ideal place to sit a while and appreciate the beauty of the mighty Richmond River.



## **RICHMOND RIVER SCENIC WALK CASINO**

**DISTANCE:** Approx 3km  
**TIME:** Approx 1.5 hours

Richmond Valley Council



Richmond Valley Council



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# Riverbank Walk

**Start: Casino Visitor Information Centre, 86 Centre Street.**

*Leaving the Visitor Centre, head south to the Irving Bridge and turn right into Memorial Park.*

**1 The Cairn** - A short stroll through the park behind the pool complex brings you to a memorial cairn marking the original crossing point of the Richmond River, colloquially named the 'Crossing Place'. Clay & Stapleton made the first settlers' river crossing, discovering the area in 1840 and laying claim to 30,000 acres of land they named "Cassino". A government gazette in 1855 proclaimed the town to be 'Casino', the township's spelling known today.



*Leaving the Cairn, retrace your steps and follow the cycleway under the bridge.*

**2 Webb Park** - Known as a popular place of rest, Webb Park's structures are adorned with local Aboriginal art. Tables line the parkway, and overlook the mighty river system giving visitors an almost birds eye view of the river rapids and flora and fauna.



*Continue through Webb Park.*

**3 Casino Citizen's Band Hall** - As you near the corner of River and Walker Streets, you will see on your right the Casino Citizen's Band Hall. The murals painted by artist Rodney Monk in 1975 depict various cattle breeds in the area and fun musical instruments and notes.



**4 Djanenjam Preschool** - Adjacent to the Band Hall is the Djanenjam Preschool that was established in 1995 for Aboriginal preschoolers. All preschoolers are welcome to attend, with focuses on play-based activities and lays the foundation for future learning.

*Continue north along Walker Street.*

**5 Casino Public School** - To your right you will see the Casino Public School which opened in 1861 meeting the minimum requirement of 30 students to become an established public school. In 1902 it became a Superior Public School providing both primary and post-primary education. In 1921 it was renamed Casino District School and offered higher education studies. In 1926 it became an Intermediate High School offering education to an Intermediate Certificate standard. In 1945 it reverted to a Public School.



**6 Casino Court House** - On your left is the Casino Court House. The building was designed by NSW colonial architect James Barnet and opened in 1882. Nowadays, the building is almost camouflaged by the mature camphor laurel trees set in front of the courthouse building.



*Continue along Walker Street, toward the CBD area.*

**7 Casino Folk Museum** - On the right-hand side of Walker Street you will find the Casino Folk Museum building, filled with fascinating historical artefacts of the region from before the original settlement today. The building itself was the original Casino High School home science rooms, with many classroom items preserved as part of the displays.



**8 Casino Community and Cultural Centre** - This centre was built in art deco style reflecting the theme of architecture throughout Casino and yet remaining contemporary. The centre was built in 2011 and designed by Lismore-based architect, James Lyon.

*Turn right into Barker Street at the Westpac Bank.*

**9 Mafeking Lamp** - Located in the centre of the Barker and Walker Streets roundabout, the Mafeking Lamp is a memorial to soldiers lost during the Boer War. The original Mafeking Lamp was moved to the Richmond Valley Council administration building entry and moulded into a sculptural display.



**10 Tattersalls Hotel** - Heading east towards the river you will find the Tattersalls Hotel on your left, built in the early 1900s and is known as Casino's longest standing pub. On the right-hand bed of the intersection of Barker and Hickey Streets is a viewing platform built to commemorate the Centenary of Federation, where your walk has now rejoined the riverside.

*Note the path leading down to the river before continuing into Hickey Street and McAuliffe Park.*

**11 McAuliffe Park** - A walk through McAuliffe Park takes you alongside the Richmond River under the canopy of an avenue of trees. In autumn, these trees leave a legacy of ankle deep, leaf strewn paths and grassy banks, great fun for the kids to kick as you stroll.



*Double back to the path leading down to the river near the viewing platform on Hickey Street where a short meander brings you to a pretty river crossing known as the 'footbridge'.*

**12 Queen Elizabeth Park** - Across the river and up the riverbank opposite, you will see Queen Elizabeth Park and sportsground stretching beyond the abundant tree-lined grasslands on your left. The sports ground provide facilities for a number of sporting activities including cricket, rugby league, athletics, cycling tracks and much more. The park is home to Casino's greyhound racing track which operates every week.



**13 Jambama Walkway** - A project of the Boolangle Landcare follows the river downstream (east) for close to one kilometre allowing for a lovely stroll along the southern riverbank.

*Return to the riverbank area and walk further south to the Corner of Hartley Street and Windsor Avenue.*

**14 The Big Hole** - Continue up Windsor Avenue, following the cycling path and turn right into Lennox Street. You will see a lookout on the pathway, overlooking the bend of the Richmond River. The area viewed from the lookout is locally known as 'The Big Hole'. On the river you will see water fowl, ducks, and sometimes in the distance, platypus.



*Up on the hill to your left, you will see some of the beautiful homes, both old and new, built along Lennox Street taking advantage of the view.*

**15 Coronation Park** - On your right you are walking past Coronation Park, which extends both sides of the bridge. This park provides wood-fuelled barbeques and toilet facilities, an undercover picnic area, and a children's playground.



**16 Irving Bridge** - To your right is the Irving Bridge which opened in 1959 after the previous bridge was washed away during the 1954 floods. The fascinating history of the flood is available at the Casino Folk Museum.



Cross the bridge using the eastern path and follow the road behind the amenities block in Webb Park, walking under Irving Bridge to the viewing platform overlooking the rockpools.

**17 Platypus Pools** - From here, the platypus sculptures in the rockbeds below lie not far from a network of burrows where platypus may be seen in their natural environment. The best times to view the platypus are early morning or dusk, but the elusive platypus are known to surface for air during overcast days.



*A short walk back up River Street and through Webb Park returns you to the Casino Visitor Information Centre and the conclusion of your walk.*

